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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جورديان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الرأي"

غدا الرأي غدا تستأنف الرأى صدوره كالتاداعته لارأى من صباح القذ الحميمين

Carter says W. Bank settlements illegal, but U.S. not pressuring Israel beyond expressing concern

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23 (AP) — President Jimmy Carter said today that Israeli settlements expressed its concern on the West Bank is an obstacle to a peaceful solution in the Middle East. The president told a news conference that he had no plan to pressure Israel other than by expressing concern. He noted that the United States express its concern on the West Bank settlements and that he agreed with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance that legalisation of settlements was an "unnecessary obstacle to peace."

Tension in Lebanese mountains eased, says Parliament leader

BEIRUT, Aug. 23 (R). — Arab peace-keeping forces made 20 arrests and seized weapons in a raid today on the Shouf area near Beirut where 11 people were reported killed in week-end clashes between rival factions. The official announcement of the round-up by the Arab League followed a statement from the speaker of the Lebanese Parliament that firm security measures had been enforced in the region.

Arafat seeks dialogue twixt U.S. and PLO

ALEXANDRIA, Aug. 23 (R). — Mr. Yasser Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, said here today that the PLO was anxious to start a direct dialogue with the United States, the Egyptian Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported. Mr. Arafat also said in a statement to MENA that the organisation was still awaiting an American reply to its request to open an office in the U.S.

16 Ugandans charged with anti-Amin plot

NAIROBI, Aug. 23 (R). — Sixteen Ugandans went on trial before a military tribunal in Kampala today, accused of plotting to overthrow the government of President Idi Amin. Uganda radio, monitored here, reported. The 16 Ugandans named by the radio included the former Chairman of Uganda's Public Service Commission, three officers in the Prisons Service, and an assistant commissioner of police who was also under-secretary in the Ministry of Internal Affairs.



TIME OUT -- U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance (right) takes time out from talks with Chinese officials to visit the Museum of History in Peking, Tuesday, where he saw a clay horse dated 200 B.C. (AP wirephoto).

Dayan says no to Palestinian state

LONDON, Aug. 23 (R). — Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan today said "we have not annexed the West Bank, we could have but we haven't." Mr. Dayan told a television interviewer that he was optimistic for future peace in the Middle East. He said everything was negotiable with the Arabs including the West Bank.

Israelis sack W. Bank mayor

TEL AVIV, Aug. 23 (R). — The Israeli military governor of the occupied West Bank has dismissed the mayor and local council of an Arab village where a personality clash has led to persistent bloodshed, a military spokesman said today. One man has died and 53 others have been injured in fighting between groups supporting rival politicians at Kabatiya in the north of the territory.

South Africa denies nuclear test plans

JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 23 (R). — An international row raged today over charges that South Africa is preparing to test a nuclear device. Foreign Minister P. W. Botha again today denied the allegation, while his namesake in the Defence Ministry, Mr. Pieter Botha, declared that South Africa was fighting for survival against internal and external pressures.

Somali guerrillas claim: 1,000 Ethiopians died in battle for key government positions

NAIROBI, Aug. 23 (R). — Somali guerrillas today said they had killed nearly 1,000 Ethiopian soldiers in a battle for two government strongholds in mountains southeast of Addis Ababa. Radio Mogadishu quoted the Western Somalia Liberation Front (WSLF) as saying its forces were still attacking the strongholds, which are only 250 kms. from Addis Ababa. This is the closest the month-long war over the Ogaden region has come to the Ethiopian capital.

Ethiopia faces food crisis, warns official

ROME, Aug. 23 (R). — Ethiopia faces a serious food shortage because it cannot use its main port, a top U.N. food aid official said today. "Tens of thousands more Ethiopians will go hungry this year unless something is done," Mr. Thomas Robinson, executive director of the U.N. World Food Programme, told Reuters.

Workers militia fund

The all-Ethiopia trades union, in a statement quoted by Addis Ababa diplomatic sources said more men and women were being recruited, mostly for the "workers militia" being trained at a huge camp outside Addis Ababa. The Ethiopian government plans to have eight per cent of the work force in the new militia. Earlier this year a "people's militia" of some 135,000 was raised and has now been deployed in Ethiopia's various battlefields.

16 Ugandans charged with anti-Amin plot

Those charged include Mr. Abdulla Anyaru, former Chairman of the Uganda Public Service Commission, John Sebendiga, E.N. Mutabazi and Vetur Akua, former prison officers, Daniel Nserenko, former Assistant Commissioner of Police and Under Secretary, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Lieutenant Ben Ogwang, formerly Military Intelligence officer, John Olobo, formerly a senior industrial relations officer in the Labour Ministry, Apolo Lawoko, controller of programmes in the Uganda Broadcasting Corporation, and Y.Y. Okot, formerly Chief Inspector of Schools. Others named by the radio were the former manager of a bottling company, a Kampala businessman, a teacher, two school headmasters, a hotel waiter, and a ticket examiner with a bus company.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL SHAB, on Tuesday, published "An open letter to President Carter" in which it detected the attention of the United States' head of state to the point that the Middle East conflict becomes more readily understandable if one "goes back into history" rather than remain entangled in the current details which surround it. The Israelis insist that no person has a right to comment on their present policies in occupied Arab territories because they "have a right to this land as promised in the Torah." This sounds like the Christian Church in Mediaeval times, when its priests went about "promising people a piece of land in Heaven's paradise." The Christian Church has been liberated from these notions of the Dark Ages but not, it seems, the Jews. "Whoever pro-

mises a land in Heaven is no less stupid, reactionary and idiotic than he who claims a divine right to a piece of geography." This is the core of the Middle East problem: you discuss current obstacles but the Jews insist on a metaphysical logic 4,000 years old. "Mr. president, the Jews are confronting you with one of two choices, as they have done to all human societies in history, either join them in going back to pre-historical notions and accept the denial of all cultural progress achieved by humanity since then, or, do something to liberate their character from the accumulated complexes of backwardness, reaction and superiority, moving them forward to understand the modern notions of Man. Either the one or the other and nothing more."

Photographers

The Jordan Times is interested in seeing the work of local photographers who would like to contribute to our photo feature "Look of the Land". Single black-and-white photographs noteworthy either for their subject content or artistic merit will be published, and the photographer will receive a name credit and financial compensation.

The Jordan Times is also interested in photographs of 5-10 black-and-white pictures on a single local theme or subject, with or without accompanying text. Payment is made according to the quality of the photographs.

There are opportunities for photographers who would like to contribute regularly to the Jordan Times on a free-lance basis. We are interested in seeing finished black-and-white prints only, preferably unmounted prints 10x14 cms or larger. Colour prints or slides and negatives cannot be considered.

If you have photographs you would like to submit for consideration, please bring them in person to the Jordan Times any evening (except Sunday) between 6:00-10:00 p.m., or send them by mail to: The Editor, the Jordan Times, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Any photographs sent by mail have to be retrieved in person, and photographs used or bought by the Jordan Times will become the property of the Jordan Times.

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Municipal seminar to meet in October

AMMAN (JNA). — A seminar on municipalities will be held in Irbid at the end of October under the chairmanship of His Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The seminar will help citizens participate in building a productive society in implementation of His Majesty King Hussein's directives during his meeting with mayors and members of municipal councils in April. The seminar will debate the present state of municipalities, as well as 12 working papers put forward by a number of ministries and government departments. Delegations will also make several study tours to villages in Irbid Governorate.

Company employing foreign workers without residence permit to be sued

AMMAN (JNA). — An authoritative source at the Ministry of Interior Tuesday said that his ministry will sue a company owner who illegally employs a foreign worker without possessing a residence permit, as well as the worker himself. The source explained that a foreign worker who obtains a work permit must also obtain a residence permit.



Minister of Culture and Youth Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf hears an explanation about a set of historical photos at an exhibition he opened Tuesday marking Romania's national day. The exhibition will last three days.

Restoration at Um Jamal historical site to start

AMMAN (JNA). — The Department of Antiquities will start restoration work on ancient buildings discovered at Um Jamal archaeological site at the beginning of September.

The restoration work, to cost JD 1,300, will be completed in November, Director of Antiquities Dr. Adnan Hadidi said Tuesday.

The department will issue a booklet on antiquities found at the site, besides making posters for tourists about its history, he added.

HEATWAVE LEAVES AMMAN SWELTERING

AMMAN (JNA). — Jordan and the region east of the Mediterranean Basin are exposed to a southeasterly to easterly dry heatwave coming from the Arabian Peninsula, the Director of the Meteorology Bureau, Dr. Ali Abanda, said Tuesday. The heatwave is expected to continue in the next 24 hours. Temperatures in Amman reached 40 degrees C. Tuesday, he added. This is the highest ever recorded since 1966.

The Black Pearl of America finds her way here to film the sights for a U.S. television show

A black pearl, a rare pearl, but presently one who is cultivating love rather than singing... We are talking of Pearl Bailey, the famous American singer whose name is associated with Broadway showbiz and several heads of state. Pearl Bailey, whose great success was "Hello Dolly", recently spent a week in Amman. The Jordan Times managed to track her down to find out what she was really doing in Jordan.

By Irene Ramadan
 Special to the Jordan Times

Pearl Bailey was recently in Amman. Not to perform, as one may have expected, for King Hussein's silver jubilee. "But to show on American television the real face of Jordan," she explained.

The American T.V. company

ABC, shot the American star as she was discovering the human aspect of sights such as Petra, Jarash, Tafleh and King Hussein Medical Centre. She will also be shown on American T.V. talking with King Hussein.

She explained her change in style. "In 1972 my heart stopped to beat for a while. The

doctors thought I was dead. Then miraculously I came back to life and now realize that the most important thing is to help people live better. And I became like Saint Thomas. I wouldn't believe anymore in something until I could touch it or feel it. It is easy to preach good words, but what really counts is action," she said.

And Pearl Bailey is a woman of action. While going on giving recitals and television shows, she started writing books - an autobiography, a study on children and a cookbook. She has only just finished a book about people she has met, who have made a great impression on her.

Politics is also involved with the "ambassador of love", as she is called. She was adviser at the U.N. in 1975 and 1976.

Now she is travelling a lot: She has already toured the Middle East and part of Africa.

The singer started her career in Broadway in 1946. She was the star of "Bless You All", "House of Flowers" and "Arms and the Girl". And her big success was the famous musical "Hello, Dolly". She is also a very well-known movie actress who has starred in "Carmen Jones", "Porgy and Bess" and "Saint Louis Women".

The other face of Pearl Bailey is her good rapport with heads of state. Once President Nixon accompanied her on the piano, while she was singing at the White House. She has also sung for Presidents Truman, Eisenhower and Ford, as well as the Shah of Iran and the Shabanu.

But her best friends remain President Ford and his wife. She knew the late Queen Aya very well. The American star is the only woman who has been offered the Hussein Medal.

To someone who was asking Pearl Bailey if she has really danced with President Anwar Sadat while he was in the United States, she replied: "Not at all. After dancing with President Ford at a reception at the White House, I decided to invite President Sadat to dance. He refused. As I was insisting, he stood up and shook my hand to give more courtesy to his refusal."

After Amman, Pearl Bailey went straight home, which means to San Fernando Valley in California, where she lives with her husband and two children. Her husband is the very talented double bass drummer Loui Bellson, who plays 13 different drums.



U.S. singer Pearl Bailey: The star of Broadway and leading heads of state.

Team leaves for Washington agricultural policy seminar

AMMAN (JNA). — A Jordanian delegation left here Tuesday to take part in a seminar on agricultural policies, which will open in Washington on Aug. 26.

The one-month seminar will be attended by a number of

developing countries, besides the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

Jordan's delegation includes Kinan Abdul Hadi of the Ministry of Agriculture and Dr. Suleiman Arabiyat of the University of Jordan.

Foreign Ministry starts campaign on Israeli policy

AMMAN (JNA). — The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Tuesday sent a memorandum explaining Jordan's position on the Israeli decision to extend public services to the West Bank and Gaza Strip to the president of the United Nations Security Council, and the secretary generals of the U.N. Arab League and Islamic Conference, as well as the president of the European Economic Community.

It also sent copies of the memorandum to its embassies abroad and asked its envoys to communicate its contents to the governments to which they are accredited and explain the danger of the settlement policy.

The Foreign Ministry also asked its embassies to urge support for the Arab position on the question and condemnation of the Israeli decision.

Such a diplomatic campaign should be supported by unified Arab action in all fields, if it is to be fruitful, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim said Tuesday.

Meanwhile, Al Sha'b newspaper Tuesday said that Jordan will submit a detailed memorandum to the Council of Arab Foreign Ministers in its session next month.

The memorandum will deal with the latest developments in the occupied West Bank in the light of the new Israeli measures.

480 literacy centres open in September

AMMAN (JNA). — The Ministry of Education will open 480 literacy centres throughout the Kingdom in September.

A total of 9,000 students will enrol in these centres, according to ministry sources.

A 10-day training course for 40 teachers and education officials working to eradicate illiteracy will take place on Sept. 19, the sources added.

IDB loans to set up industries

AMMAN (JNA). — The Industrial Development Bank Tuesday approved JD 200,000 in loans to establish a factory to produce iron used in the construction industry, and a modern printing press.

The two projects will provide jobs for 62 people.

This brings the total number of loans granted in 1977 to 44, totalling JD 3,147,800.

STATISTICS ... STATISTICS

AMMAN (JNA). — Gold and foreign exchange reserves reached JD 289 million in June 1977 as compared with JD 243 in the same month of 1976, an increase of JD 26 million, according to a Central Bank monthly release.

Bank deposits by resident and non-resident Jordanians reached JD 214,844,000 last June in comparison with JD 170,804,000 in June 1976, an increase of JD 44,140,000.

Tourist spending

A survey conducted by the Statistics Department on tourist spending indicated that the maximum average spending by the Arab visitor stands at JD 16,400 daily and JD 15,200 by the foreign visitor.

The survey also showed that the lowest average spending

by the Arab tourist totalled JD 2,500 per day and by the foreign tourist JD 5,700.

Aqaba attracts more

The number of ships docking at the Port of Aqaba in 1976 totalled 1,064 vessels compared to only 516 in 1975, an increase of 106 per cent.

Statistics released by the Aqaba Port Authority showed that the volume of goods imported and exported via the port increased from 553,000 tons in 1975 to 3 million tons in 1976.

The volume of exported goods increased from 780,000 tons in 1975 to 1,631,000 in 1976. The major export-earner was phosphate rock.

The volume of goods imported increased from 682,000 tons in 1975 to 1,368,000 tons in 1976.

NATIONAL NOTES

AMMAN. — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Viceroy, Tuesday visited the parliament building and met with Speaker of the Upper House Bahjat Talhoumi and a number of house members. Prince Hassan also made a tour of parliament offices and inspected work on the unfinished portions of the new building.

AMMAN. — The Board of the Tourism Authority Tuesday approved, in principle, the preparation of a tourist booklet on Jordan by a U.S.-based firm and the filming of a documentary by a Japanese company.

AMMAN. — The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities Tuesday decided to allocate 10 scholarships to Arab tourism organisations for each course at the Hotel Management Training Centre. The decision was communicated to the Secretariat of the Arab Tourism Union, which will distribute the scholarships to Arab bodies.

AMMAN. — Acting Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Zaki Al Qussus, Tuesday received the Jordanian ambassador to Egypt, Mr. Zouqan Mindawl, as well as the Pakistani ambassador and the British charge d'affaires in Amman.

AMMAN. — The University of Jordan Tuesday approved the holding of a photo exhibition about Damascus and proposed mid-November as the most suitable date.

AMMAN. — The Department of Statistics will distribute a small booklet as of next month explaining the street numbering system here.

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Israel's arms industry: The deserts just keep on growing!

Losing the struggle for independence

By Gwynne Dyer

Israel seems to be winning its public battles for independence from the U.S. State Department, or at least to be holding its own. During Prime Minister Begin's visit to Washington and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's recent talks in West Jerusalem, any hint of U.S. pressure to impose its own settlement ideas on Israel has been denied in tones of shocked innocence. But Israel is losing the secret struggle for independence.

It centres on Israel's arms industry. Once upon a time, Israel bought its weapons from a variety of willing suppliers (though mainly the French), and paid a manageable price for them. Since 1970, when the first U.S. Phantoms were delivered, it has had only one supplier willing to sell it major weapons, and the cost of those weapons has become an utterly crushing burden.

In the past 15 years Israel's annual military purchases abroad have increased by 15 times, to a figure last year of \$2.3 billion (one third of all imports). The inroads into West Jerusalem's limited foreign exchange reserves have been enormous, and military costs account for most of Israel's runaway inflation (38 per cent last year).

The political costs are even greater. America's position of sole supplier of advanced weapons to Israel (and there are no alternative candidates) gives it an immense leverage over Israeli foreign policy. This lever has already been used once: There was a tacit U.S. arms embargo for 6 months in 1973, which finally forced Israel to sign the second disengagement agreement with Egypt.

A few months ago President Carter promised never to use this lever against Israel, but no government in West Jerusalem would dare believe him. Restrictions on arms sales are the only really effective lever Washington has, and it is easy

enough to imagine circumstances (a renewed Arab oil embargo, for example) where the United States would be desperately anxious to extort concessions for Israel.

Israel's attempted solution to dependence on imported U.S. arms has been the development of its own arms industry. If it could build most of its own weapons, it would save vast sums in foreign exchange -- and could export some of them, to set against the price of those it must still import.

Every new weapons requirement that can be met from domestic sources also decreases the control the U.S. can exert on Israeli foreign policy. The bigger Israel's arms industry (and the more it exports), the greater is Israel's real independence.

Israel has by now created one of the most brilliant little arms industries in the world. It produces high-performance combat aircraft (Kfir), first-class tanks (the new Merkava), excellent naval vessels (Reshef class fast patrol boats), and a variety of outstanding tactical missiles (including Gabriel Mark II ship-to-ship, and Shafrir air-to-air missiles).

Israel could conceivably cover much of the cost of the remaining imports by exporting some of the weapons it does produce. It is in this vital area that the Israeli arms industry has suffered some grievous blows in the past year at the hands of the United States.

Unfortunately, Israel's main potential export markets for arms are exactly those countries where Washington is trying to control the inflow of advanced weapons: South Africa and Rhodesia (which are under a total embargo) and Latin American countries.

Israel's Uzi sub-machinegun is being made under licence by Rhodesia, and its Gabriel missiles by South Africa. It has sold its Arava utility aircraft to a number of Latin American air forces. But the real profits

lie in exporting big, expensive items like fighters or tanks.

The Kfir, for example, is an excellent fighter at a highly competitive price -- but its engine is imported from the United States, as are much of its electronics. When Israel made its first foreign sale of Kfirs to Ecuador last spring, Washington promptly vetoed it. The same would happen in almost any other likely export market for Israel, and the new Merkava tank, with the American engine, is in the same category.

Israel's obvious strategy for escaping the veto is to learn to produce the parts that it now imports from the U.S. The research and development costs of doing it alone would be prohibitive, but one way out was through entering into co-production agreements with U.S. firms.

In its order of 250 General Dynamics F-16 fighters this year, Israel sought up to 50 per cent production in Israel, with final assembly in Tel Aviv. Similarly, in negotiations with Litton Industries for new 'avionics' to update its Phantoms, it asked for 25 per cent co-production.

It simply hit another blank wall. General Dynamics would offer no more than a 5 per cent share in the production of F-16 spare parts. Litton Industries refused to let Israel build the key inertial instruments in the avionics package for the Phantoms. Half a dozen other negotiations have shown the same pattern.

The U.S. arms companies do not intend to give their expertise to an avid would-be competitor on the export markets. The U.S. government wants Israel to stay dependent on American arms, for diplomatic reasons, and it also wants to control where Israeli arms go abroad.

The Israeli arms industry has so far been an unbroken success story, but it is now coming up against the limits of the possible. There is little chance that it will ever liberate Israel from its vulnerability to the manipulation of U.S. arms supplies.

By Ganimi Ceneviratne

LONDON (Gemin) — Desertification means the gradual, step-by-step degradation of a living ecosystem until its capacity to sustain life is lost virtually beyond recovery.

Man's activities, however deleterious, probably cannot create deserts on their own. Nature would need an awful long time. Visible desertification, however, is almost entirely a man-made process, to which nature adds the finishing touch.

Nature does provide the base. The desert and semi-desert areas of the world are very old. There are five great desert regions -- the Australian; the Kalahari in southern Africa; the Patagonian in South America; the Sonoran in Mexico and the USA; and the zone which sprawls from the Sahara across Arabia and Iran, up into the USSR and out through Indo-Pakistan to connect up with the Gobi desert of Mongolia.

The common feature -- shortage, irregularity and unpredictability of water supply -- is also mostly under nature's control. But man is both the tool and the labourer in the march of desertification.

Often the people involved have no real choice but to participate in the decline of their own environment, until their effort far exceeds what they can get out of the soil, and irreversible desert takes over.

There is no such thing as a stable ecosystem. Most often, in natural conditions, the change is of ever-increasing complexity -- more and more species of plants and animals carve out tighter, closer-meshed niches within it.

In the desertification process, the reverse happens. The density of animal and plant communities decline, the diversity of species falls. Human pressure accelerates the course. He removes the woody plants, for building or firewood, his animals remove other plants and grasses, cultivation usually replaces diverse plant life with a single crop. Man turns over the soil, he may burn the stubble of one

crop to prepare for the next, in many ways he exposes the earth to wind and flood erosion.

In the arid zones, where rainfall is low and variable, human activity is encouraged by periods of above-average precipitation. The result is more settlements, wider cultivation, increasing numbers of livestock. Yet it is characteristic of these climates that successive years of drought also happen.

As Canadian climatologist Kenneth Hare observes: "Natural ecosystems 'remember' such phenomena". Humans, apparently, tend to forget. Plants and animals natural to these desert-prone regions would be genetically adapted to survive extreme conditions. Man, domesticated livestock and the introduced crops cannot.

Sometimes, perhaps often, the apparent conquest of nature by science and technology may in fact be making the land more vulnerable than ever. Professor Hare is the

author of a paper on climate and desertification for the U.N. desertification talks.

In it he recalls the Dust Bowl of the 1930s, when drought combined with over-cultivation and over-grazing to create the disaster which emptied the prairies from Mexico across the U.S. Great Plains to the Canadian grainlands. It took immense effort, enormous funds and a lot of time before the micro-climate seemed to recover.

Intensive land use has returned. Are the U.S. Great Plains again at risk? The weather was unusually good throughout the U.S.-Canada grain belt in the 15 years between 1955 and 1972. It was improved technology, however, which was given the credit for high yields.

The drought and heat have returned. The crops, judging by yield-losses, of the past two years, are still very vulnerable. As Mr. Hare puts it: "Fifteen consecutive years of good weather -- the odds against

which are of a very high order -- have rendered the land of the world's principal exporter of cereals vulnerable because most of the people had forgotten that drought occurs."

Less edgy scientific advances can contribute to the spread of deserts. The war against the tsetse fly, for example, will increasingly add to the over-grazing problem, unless other control measures are taken.

More directly, the very irrigation of arid lands creates problems, notably water-logging and salinisation. Half the irrigated arid lands are salinised to some degree.

Desertification implies both the degradation of conditions within arid regions and the spread of these conditions further out to embrace marginal lands. The Sahara is said to have swallowed up a million square kilometres of farmable land in the past 50 years.

The statisticians say the world will lose one-third of

its agricultural lands to desertification by the end of this century, if the present rate continues.

Nearly 630 million people, 14 per cent of the world's population, live in drylands. Over 90 million of them live in those 28 per cent of drylands which are seriously affected by desertification.

Dryland people are usually among the poorest of the population. What they produce is highly vulnerable to local and world market price fluctuations. They rarely have the wherewithal to correct or stem the imbalances they cause and must, in fact, continue the process, if only to survive.

When this becomes impossible and they drift in search of urban employment, they may still contribute to the desertification process. In places like Mexico City, the authorities have been compelled to channel water away from the agricultural drylands to provide for the burgeoning urban population.

Once the process of desertification sets in it probably sustains itself, and, as it were, breeds. For example, bare, dry soil, poor in humus, has a high reflectivity, which encourages air to fall and decreases the likelihood of rain.

Modern man is helping in many ways, notably by the use of fossil fuels, rapidly increasing the levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide, and by releasing halocarbons such as aerosol propellants. Man, in short, is raising surface temperatures and aiding aridity and desertification.

The growth of human population on its own is putting pressure on the land. In the same period (to the end of the century) when a third of agricultural land is expected to be surrendered to desert, it will be necessary, if even the low nutrition standards of today are to be maintained, to grow a third more food.

Must the process of impoverishing the earth, exposing it to wind and water erosion, by over-grazing and deforestation, by deep ploughing and burning and unwise irrigation, go on at an increasing rate? Apparently, not necessarily; but that is another story.

DESERT FACTS

- * 1 in 8 people
- * Half world's cattle
- * One-third world's sheep
- * Two-thirds world's goats
- ... live in a desert area

30 million tons of grain a year lost as desert progresses

100 countries are threatened by encroachment of the desert

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British air traffic controllers vote for all-out strike

LONDON, Aug. 23 (R). — Some 850 air traffic control assistants voted yesterday for an all-out strike this week which would bring Britain's airports to a standstill.

In a bid to avert massive disruption over what is traditionally one of the busiest weeks of the year for air traffic, Employment Minister Albert Booth called for urgent talks between the government and the Civil and Public Services Association (CPSA) representing the assistants.

The assistants voted 502 to

97 to stop work from midnight next Thursday until early Tuesday. The action could affect thousands of holidaymakers hoping to get away from Britain for a long weekend. Next Monday is a national holiday here.

The dispute stems from the government's refusal to implement a pay rise awarded to the assistants in 1975. Disagreement centres on whether or not the increase is legitimate under government income restrictions.

The assistants work at Britain's two major air control centres, near London's Heath-

row Airport and at Prestwick in Scotland.

The exact effect of the strike was hard to predict because this would be the first time the assistants have been involved in a major stoppage, observers said.

The government has already moved to avert the strike by calling for a meeting today between aviation authorities and the CPSA.

The CPSA is supported in its stand by the Trades Union Congress (TUC), representing most trade unions. Mr. Thomas, who is the CPSA general secretary, criticised the government for saying the pay claim would breach the Labour administration's pay policy.

"This settlement is so ancient it should be recorded in the Book of Genesis," Mr. Thomas said. Lack of government action was a national disgrace, he added.

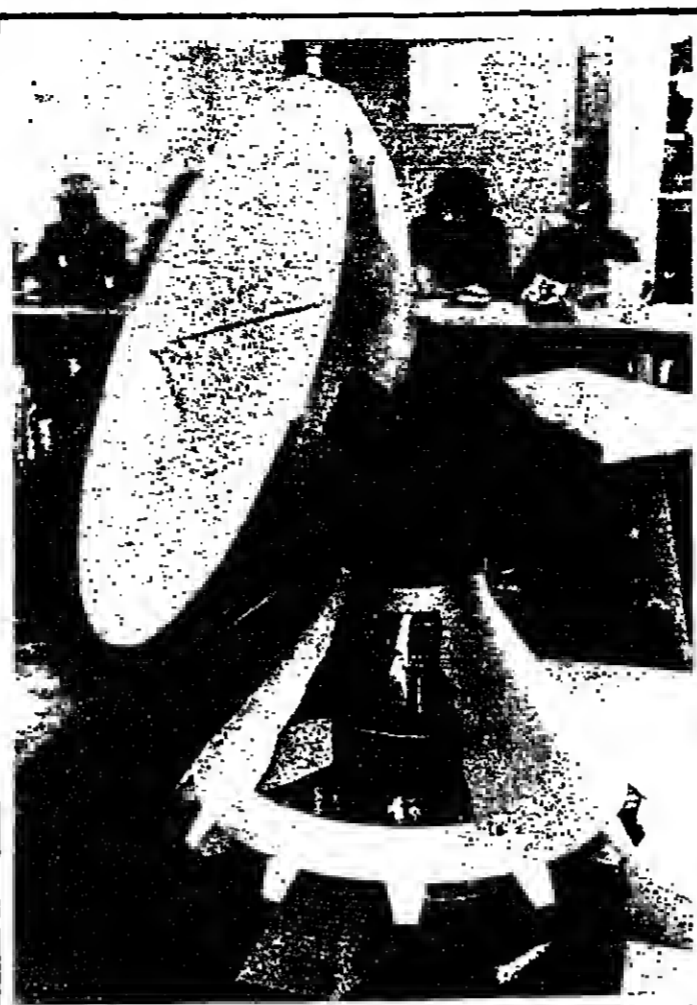
Contingency plans have been drawn up by the Civil Aviation Authority to keep as many aircraft flying as possible. But long delays and cancellations are expected, should the strike take place.

Mr. Michael Heseltine, environment spokesman for the conservative opposition, said the government should consider using troops to keep disrupting holiday flights to a minimum.

The dispute has already caused extensive delays and cancellations at London's Heathrow, Luton and Gatwick airports over the last few days because the assistants are refusing to work a computer required to handle the vast amount of daily air movements.

By mid-afternoon, average delays were estimated at five hours, while continental and American services were curtailed.

Six long-distance flights to the Gulf, Tehran and North America were cancelled. Services to Brussels, Paris, Amsterdam, Geneva and Turin were disrupted.



FRANKFURT INTELSAT TRACKING STATION IN THE MAKING -- A new satellite tracking station is under construction at Ustinger, near Frankfurt, Germany. It will incorporate a reflector 18.5 metres in diameter cocked at outer space in general and Intelsat V in particular.

From summer 1979 onwards nearly fifty per cent of international telephone, teletype and data links with Germany will be routed via the new facility.

The Big Ear will be cocked mainly at Intelsat V or, to be more precise, one of a new generation of communications satellites that will be put into orbit in mid-1978 so as to appear perched at a stationary vantage-point 36,000 kms. above the mid-Atlantic, where it will relay 12,500 telecommunications channels.

Copper, iron ore found in North Yemen

SAN'A, Aug. 23 (R). — Copper ore has been found in sufficient quantities at two places in North Yemen to make the country one of the world's largest producers of copper, according to a geological report submitted to the government.

The newspaper Al Thawra said yesterday that a high-powered special committee would be set up soon to work on the matter, and suggested that a bilateral trade pact might be concluded by the spring of next year.

The paper said the panel would be co-chaired by Yoshihiro Inayama, Chairman of the Japan-China Economic Affairs Association, and the Keidanren, the powerful industry federation, whose President Toshio Doko met China's new leader Hua Kuo-feng in Peking last spring.

Asahi said that China was seeking to strengthen its economic ties with Japan. It cited the fact that Chinese missions are being sent on study trips to this country at regular intervals.

Referring to prospects for the conclusion of a trade pact by the spring of 1978, the paper expressed the view that it should be possible to settle technical matters with a bearing on the volume of two-day trade and terms of settlement following the recent re-

Japan seeks long term trade deal with China

TOKYO, Aug. 23 (AFP). — Japan will seek a long term trade agreement with China as soon as possible, with the business community here hoping that this will help offset difficulties encountered by Japanese exporters on Western markets.

The daily Asahi Shimbun said yesterday that a high-powered special committee would be set up soon to work on the matter, and suggested that a bilateral trade pact might be concluded by the spring of next year.

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Referring to prospects for the conclusion of a trade pact by the spring of 1978, the paper expressed the view that it should be possible to settle technical matters with a bearing on the volume of two-day trade and terms of settlement following the recent re-

habilitation of Tseng Hsiao-ling.

Under the agreement now being considered, Japan would purchase considerable amounts of crude oil and coal from China over a fairly long period of time.

In exchange, China would import plant construction materials, and technology in such areas as coal and steel processing, oil prospecting, transport, port construction, petrochemical industry and electric power generation.

On the basis of Chinese data, Japanese steelmakers believe they will be able to import five million tons of Chinese coking coal in 1982.

According to reports here, China would be prepared to sell up to 50 million tons of crude oil a year to Japan by 1982. But the Japanese apparently would prefer a smaller quantity, Chinese crude is heavier than that from the Middle East and this would require major investments in Japanese refineries.

Asahi Shimbun said Japanese experts would go to China next month to discuss oil prospecting and trading prospects on the spot.

The paper said that according to the most optimistic estimates, two-way Sino-Japanese trade could attain an annual \$10 billion within a fairly brief period of time.

Turkey drafts austerity packages

ANKARA, Aug. 23 (R). — Turkish officials have drafted a package of austerity measures intended to stabilise the ailing economy, a senior Central Bank official said yesterday.

The programme may be announced by Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel this week, the official said. Prices would be raised for oil, coal and many state-manufactured products, he said. Exports would be encouraged and consumer demand repressed.

The central banker would not comment on recent speculation among economists and bankers here that Turkey might devalue its currency.

Economists say that steps are required to restore confidence in Turkey's ability to pay its foreign debts.

A businessmen's group estimated this month that Turkey would need at least \$1 billion this year to service its debts and bridge its basic foreign exchange deficit.

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Nigeria sets up an economic intelligence unit

LONDON, Aug. 23 (R). — Nigeria has set up an economic intelligence unit to ensure that foreign contractors who have dealings with South Africa do not operate in the West African country, according to Lagos Radio, monitored here yesterday.

The radio said the move was announced by Nigerian head of state Olusegun Obasanjo.

An anti-apartheid conference sponsored jointly by the United Nations and the Organisation of Africa Unity opened in the Nigerian capital yesterday.

Lt. Gen. Obasanjo said the federal government was compiling a list of all countries and enterprises which had dealings with the South African government, Lagos Radio reported.

He advised all those concerned to review their relations with South Africa and embark on appropriate action that would bring about a change in that country.

Meanwhile a major African trade union body hailed the conference on apartheid as "a milestone in the liberation struggle" in southern Africa, the Ghana News Agency reported.

A message from the Organisation of African Trade Unity to the conference reaffirmed OAUU support for stronger action against South Africa and support for the right of the black majority to self-determination, the agency reported.

Oil firms get 2 weeks to appear in Zambian court

LUSAKA, Aug. 23 (R). — Zambia is planning to give 17 oil companies, including leading British, French and United States firms, two weeks to appear in the high court here to face allegations of Rhodesia sanctions-busting, the Justice Ministry said today.

President Kenneth Kaunda's landlocked nation is also claiming some 5,508 million kwacha (\$4,015 million) in total damages from the companies for allegedly starving Zambia of oil to Rhodesia's benefit, a spokesman said.

In the past, Dr. Kaunda has bitterly criticised oil companies for allegedly fuelling the Rhodesian war machine, thus bolstering the white minority government Zambia stands committed to helping overthrow.

The damages claim was considerably higher than the \$500 million Zambia initially warned it would claim from the companies, which include Shell, B.P., Texaco, Caltex and Mobil.

Zambia's claim dates back to 1962 and a series of agreements negotiated then for the supply of oil to the now defunct federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, of which pre-independence Zambia was part.

Zambia claims that major oil companies starved it of oil in order to build up stocks in Rhodesia before Premier Ian Smith unilaterally declared independence from Britain in 1965.

A Justice Ministry spokesman said a writ had been issued yesterday on three Zambian-based companies -- Mobil (Zambia), Caltex (Zambia) and Total (Zambia).

Further writs were expected next week against 14 foreign-based companies, the spokesman said.

These were: Shell Petroleum Company Ltd. (England), British Petroleum (England), California Texas Oil Company (Delaware, USA), Mobil Petroleum Company Inc. (Delaware), Total Oil Products Ltd. (Rhodesia), Compagnie Francaise des Petroles (France), Shell Transport and Trading (England), Royal Dutch Petroleum Company (Holland), Mobil Oil Corporation (New York), Standard Oil (California), Texaco Inc. (Texas), Genta (Rhodesia), Mobil Oil (southern Rhodesia) and Shell Rhodesia Ltd.

Israelis love eggs!

TEL AVIV, Aug. 23 (AFP). — Israelis eat more eggs than any one else in the world, Poultry Council Director Yaakov Doron affirmed here today.

In an average year they get through 1,500 million eggs, or 420 eggs per Israeli, he said.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Libya, N. Korea sign cooperation agreement
 * PARIS, Aug. 23 (AFP). — Libya and North Korea have signed an agreement on general cooperation and on consumption, industry and health, the Arab Revolution News Agency (ARNA), monitored here, reported yesterday. The agreements were signed Sunday by Libyan Housing Minister Mohammed Ahmad Al Mangoush and by North Korean Vice Premier Keong Jin Tse.

Iraq will complete oil, fuel projects
 * BAGHDAD, Aug. 23 (R). — Iraq will complete a number of oil and fuel projects worth 78.5 million dinars (about £100 million) by the end of this year, the Iraq News Agency reported. The projects include a liquid gas production unit in the Basrah Province of southern Iraq which will cost 5.5 million dinars (about £7.8 million) and will have a production capacity of 200,000 tons a year. Exploitation of the Lahis oil-field in the south, which has cost nine million dinars (about £13 million) is due to begin in December.

China's Hua urges hard work to raise low living standard

HONG KONG, Aug. 23 (AFP). — Chinese Party Chairman Hua Kuo-feng has urged that the Chinese living standard is still low and urged the people to raise it through hard work in production.

The Chinese leader said so in his political report made at the recent 11th Party Congress and published by New China News Agency yesterday.

He disclosed that to step up productivity, China will convene "a national conference on science and technology at the appropriate time."

Increased productivity, he explained, answers the need for reinforcing the material base of the "proletarian dictatorship" and vanquishing the capitalist forces.

It will also improve our living standard, enhance our national defence capabilities and get our country prepared against aggression by imperialism or social imperialism," he said.

To achieve these aims, Chairman Hua urged the Chinese people to "work hard for several years and turn one third of our country's enterprises into Tachai-type enterprises and one third of our counties into Tachai-type counties in the period of the fifth five-year plan (1975-80)."

Tachai and Tachai refer to the oilfield and farm which are pace-setters in China's industry and agriculture.

Mr. Hua said that with the support of the "gang of four", capitalism had been rampant in recent years in a number of places and units inside China.

"Inside and outside these places and units the old and new bourgeois elements in town and countryside worked hand in glove to mount fierce attacks, damaging certain economic enterprises owned by the state or collectives, causing degeneration in a number of them," he said. He urged "relentless blows to embezzlers, speculators and those engaged in illegal capitalist activities and a stop to every action that undermines the national plan."

He reiterated Chairman Mao's directives on promoting China's national economy: "Carry out the general line of going all out, aiming high and achieving greater, faster, better and more economical results" and "walking on two legs."

Another quotation of Chairman Mao's cited in Mr. Hua's speech: "Take agriculture as the foundation and industry as the leading factor" so as to achieve coordinated growth and an all round leap forward in agriculture, light industry, heavy industry and other economic sectors.

"We must build an independent and fairly comprehensive industrial and economic system in our country by 1980," he said.

"By then farming must be basically mechanised, production increased considerably and industrial headway made to create conditions for the sixth five-year plan."

People's livelihood should be improved step by step on the basis of increased production and the socialist principle of distribution, "from each according to his ability, to each according to his work," he added.

Levi Strauss Co. cracks down on jean forgeries

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 23 (AFP). — The Levi Strauss Company has filed a court complaint here against an international gang for mass forgery of its famous blue jeans.

After several months of investigation in the United States, Europe and the Far East, Levi Strauss pins much of the blame on one of its former Texas plant managers.

Fired in 1971, the manager is said to have taken trade secrets which had been guarded for over a century and used them to set up a counterfeit Levi Strauss operation in Taiwan.

The counterfeiters are said to have dumped 70,000 falsely labelled pairs of jeans in Europe during the first half of this year. Tens of thousands of pairs of Levi's have been seized in Amsterdam and in Switzerland, where four arrests in connection with the case were made last week. Another 30,000 unfinished pairs were confiscated at the Taiwan factory.

Levi Strauss is asking for immediate cessation of the Taiwan firm's operations, an exact accounting of its profits, and punitive damages of at least \$5 million.

The present forgery case is only one of 50 or so that the jeans maker has recorded since the start of the world boom in denim clothing.

On the occasion of the National Day of the Socialist Republic of Romania, the Department of Culture and Arts, in cooperation with the Romanian embassy in Amman, is holding a Romanian photo exhibition under the patronage of the Minister of Culture and Youth Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf.

At the Hayat Arts Centre.

Wednesday Aug. 24 until Friday Aug. 26 at 7.30 p.m.

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Syrian pound 81.30/80

Iraqi dinar 975.00/985.00

Kuwaiti dinar 1137.00/1143.50

Egyptian pound 465.00/472.00

Libyan dinar 710.00/725.00

UAE dirham 83.70/84.30

U.K. sterling 572.00/576.00

U.S. dollar 328.00/331.00

German mark 141.70/142.60

French franc 67.10/50

Swiss franc 136.40/137.20

Italian lira (for every 100) 37.20/40

Several major U.S. banks raise prime lending rate

NEW YORK, Aug. 23 (R). — Several major banks raised their prime lending rate from 6-3/4 to 7 per cent yesterday, effective immediately, following similar action by Citibank last Friday.

Announcing the increase in their prime rate -- the fee that banks charge their best corporate customers for loans -- were Chase Manhattan Bank, Chemical Bank, Manu-

facturers Hanover Corporation and the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company.

Citibank also led the way for the other banks in the last general rate increase, from 6-1/2 to 6-3/4 per cent, on May 27.

The latest increase in the prime lending rate -- the base from which most other lending rates are calculated -- reflected generally rising interest rates in the money market.

World Food Council president warns against farm subsidies

MANILA, Aug. 23 (AFP). — World Food Council President Arturo Tanco Jr. called yesterday on the U.S. Congress to abstain from unilateral action on farm subsidies that could trigger a new food crisis.

Mr. Tanco voiced alarm over reports that recent bumper grain crops and resultant low prices have put Congress in a mood to return to the pre-1972 policy of paying farmers to leave farm land idle.

Mr. Tanco the Filipino Agriculture Secretary, said in a speech here there were "strong rumours" that such action might be included in a farm bill soon to be debated in the American Congress.

He noted that a similar situation of bumper crops and subsidised idle lands between 1968 and 1972 led to worldwide complacency which turned a single year of adverse weather into a global food crisis.

"Let us remember that the right to food is the most basic right" Mr. Tanco said. "To diminish the availability of food in a hungry world is to diminish human rights."

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

One sterling =	1.7401 / 08	U.S. dollars
One dollar =	2.3190 / 3201	West German marks
	2.4480 / 95	Dutch guilders
	2.4005 / 15	Swiss francs
	35.55 / 58	Belgian francs
	4.8955 / 9015	French francs
	882.50 / 75	Italian lire
	266.70 / 80	Japanese yen
	4.4085 / 4115	Swedish crowns
	5.2935 / 65	Norwegian crowns
	5.9960 / 90	Danish crowns

WALL STREET REPORT

The New York Stock Exchange backed away from an early gain Tuesday, failing to sustain the rally that began on Monday. The industrial average finally closed at 865.56, off 1.73 after moderate trading. 20,280,000 shares were traded.

According to analysts, the upswing yesterday had mainly stemmed from internal market factors and lacked any favourable news to sustain it.

At the close, the industrial average shows at 865.56, a loss of 1.73 points; Transp at 217.33, a gain of 1.32; utilities at 111.52, a gain of 0.61.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

Share prices again drifted lower on the stock exchange Tuesday after a bright start following brokers' optimistic comments. News that Britain's unemployment figure had reached a post-war record this month quickly quelled buying interest, although, as on Monday, prices picked up a little from the bottom. The F.T. industrial shares index was down 1.9 at 483.7.

Gifts also eased after a bright start on concern about the rising trend of U.S. interest rates, finishing with losses of between a quarter and half-a-point (25 to 50 pence).

Among the leading industrials to lose ground were Unilever, Imperial Chemical Industries, Beecham, Guest Keen and Thube Investments. Turner and Newall, in contrast, jumped over 10 per cent on its £34 million U.S. acquisition. Lucas (Electrical Components) also advanced as hope grew that the seven-week strike of its tool-room workers (which is disrupting supplies to the car industry) would end.

In shipping, Ocean Transport, gained after its £38 million order for new ships. Bank were undecided, but Hong Kong Shanghai held steady.

Gold fell back again with the bullion price. Oils were narrowly mixed, with British Petroleum recovering a little of Monday's losses.

On the plantations' list, Assam Frontier was firm, while Canon and Honda moved up among the Japanese shares.

Price of gold closed in London Tuesday at \$143.48/oz.

مركز صنع النسيج

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1977

Your Daily HOROSCOPE from the CARROLL RICHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You have a good chance to get your affairs on a more solid and secure structure... ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Confer with a bigwig and learn how to have greater success in the future...

PEANUTS comic strip panels. Panel 1: YES, SIR, MY DOG IS GETTING MARRIED... HE NEEDS A COMPLETE WEDDING OUTFIT... Panel 2: NO, SIR, WE DON'T HAVE AN ACCOUNT HERE...

ANDY GAPP comic strip panels. Panel 1: DID ANYONE CALL ME? I WAS OUT! Panel 2: YES, PET, BUT I WAS A BIT DOZY AN' I DIDN'T CATCH WHAT 'E WAS ON ABOUT...

MUTT & JEFF comic strip panels. Panel 1: MUTT, I CAN'T TALK, I HAVE LARYNGITIS AND FEVER... Panel 2: SORRY, I CAN'T MAKE IT, GUS! I'LL BE SPENDING A NICE QUIET NIGHT AT HOME... Panel 3: HELLO, MOTHER, YOU'D BETTER COME RIGHT OVER! MUTT IS STARTING TO TALK AGAIN AND I CAN'T!

THE FLINTSTONES comic strip panels. Panel 1: PLEASE STAND BY... Panel 2: HMM-THAT'S THE EDUCATIONAL CHANNEL! Panel 3: ...PROBABLY LOST THEIR BOOK MARK

LAUGHS FROM EUROPE cartoon. A man is vacuuming a car in a garage. Caption: ENGLAND Clayton

THE BETTER HALF. By Barnes cartoon. A man is talking to a woman in a garage. Caption: "Mother, I'll never forgive you for leaving Stanley's beer cooler in the garage!"

PROVERB It's impossible to fight or remove darkness; you just have to turn on the light.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF © 1977 by Chicago Tribune Both vulnerable. South deals. NORTH ♠ J7532 ♥ KJ64 ♦ A ♣ J83 WEST ♠ 108 ♥ A7 ♦ KQ7654 ♣ 32 EAST ♠ Q ♥ Q108532 ♦ 9 ♣ J98 ♠ Q109 ♠ AK964 ♥ 9 ♦ AK7542 ♣ Q109

In his Bols Bridge Tip, Jeff Rubens advised players to make life as easy as possible for partner, to prevent him from making an unnecessary error.

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee. Includes word search grid and a cartoon of a woman at a beauty parlor.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE. Includes a crossword grid and a list of clues. SOLUTION OF YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE: 1. Taro paste, 2. Rider Haggard, 3. Advocate, 4. Novel, 5. Aysa, 6. Cleric, 7. River to the Danube, 8. Obscure, 9. Babylonian god, 10. Overbearing, 11. Xerox is one, 12. Restrained, 13. Tractable, 14. Cruel, 15. Charged atom, 16. Eternity, 17. Deprive, 18. Wroughted, 19. Wind instruments, 20. Thrub, 21. Taro paste, 22. Rider Haggard, 23. Advocate, 24. Novel, 25. Aysa, 26. Cleric, 27. River to the Danube, 28. Obscure, 29. Babylonian god, 30. Overbearing, 31. Xerox is one, 32. Restrained, 33. Tractable, 34. Cruel, 35. Charged atom, 36. Eternity, 37. Deprive, 38. Wroughted, 39. Wind instruments, 40. Thrub.

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51 Moslem extremists plead "not guilty" of Cairo terrorist acts

CAIRO, Aug. 23 (R). — All 51 members of a Moslem extremist group accused of kidnapping and killing a former minister today pleaded not guilty on charges carrying the death penalty. The charges include attempts to change the government of President Anwar Sadat by force and planting explosives in public places with the intention of stirring terror among the people. The three-man military court asked each defendant for his plea on the charges and all together shouted: "not guilty". The court president decided to postpone the hearings till Sept. 3 at the request of the defence who wanted more time to study the case and read the police and prosecution investigations.

All the defendants were brought to court handcuffed in closed police vans. As they entered the courtroom they shouted: "Allah akbar" (God is great) and: "Down with the state of sinners." Apart from the 51 present, three more defendants are facing trial in absentia. The 51 included three 14-year-olds accused of acting as couriers for the group's leader. The defence asked the court to release them but the request was refused. Heated arguments then ensued between the defence and the prosecution over the legality of the trial procedures. All the defendants alleged before the court that they were tortured during the interrogation and 14 of them claimed

they still bore marks of torture. One of the defendants, Mohammed Gamal Sayed, removed his shirt and showed the court red markings on his back. He said he was beaten and was subjected to electric shock and torture as well. The court decided to refer him to medical examinations. The group's leader, Shukri Mustapha who was dressed in black garment shouted as the trial started, addressing the court: "God will torture you all... His torture will be more severe. We are Allah's caliphs on earth and we will rule this society one day so our religion may prevail." He also said he was beaten and tortured during the interrogation.



SRI LANKAN CLASHES -- A policeman uses the butt end of his rifle against young man in northern Sri Lanka on Monday during clashes between police and the public. The clashes sparked off violence which left about 25 people dead, country-wide. The situation in the country was said to have improved on Tuesday, with curfews lifted in certain areas and re-imposed in others. (AP wirephoto)

Trade improvement is major item of talks in Shah's Polish visit

WARSAW, Aug. 23 (R). — The Shah of Iran said he saw no reason why states with different political and economic systems should not cooperate. The Iranian leader was replying to a toast given by Polish Communist Party Secretary Edward Gierek at a dinner held in his honour last night. In his speech the Shah expressed satisfaction at the increasing trade between Poland and Iran. Poland was now Iran's third largest trading partner in Eastern Europe, he said. The Shah and Empress Farah, who both arrived yesterday for a five-day official visit, to-

day went on a two-day trip to Poznan and Gdansk. The Shah will resume talks on Thursday with Mr. Gierek. These are expected to focus on economic cooperation between the two countries. Poland is pressing for a change of the structure of Iranian exports and proposing to boost fixed annual quotas of about 400,000 tons of Iranian crude oil. The Poles are asking Iran for a greater share of its exports and have also expressed an interest in entering joint ventures with Iran and other countries.

Polish newspapers today praised the "friendly and businesslike atmosphere" of the talks between the emperor and Mr. Gierek. The Communist Party newspaper Trybuna Ludu said that the first day of the visit confirmed the conviction here that it would contribute to even closer cooperation. The leading Warsaw newspaper Zycie Warszawy said that Poland and Iran have many identical or similar views on international problems above all on the principle of peaceful coexistence and on cooperation between states of different political ideologies.

Former Indian minister arrested

NEW DELHI, Aug. 23 (R). — Former Indian Defence Minister Bansi Lal, a hardline supporter of Mrs. Indira Gandhi's emergency rule, was arrested today for alleged misappropriation of funds belonging to the Congress Party's youth wing, it was reported here. Mr. Bansi Lal, 49, is the only one of Mrs. Gandhi's former cabinet ministers to have been arrested since she and her Congress Party were ousted from power last March. Several of her close aides were held under Prevention of Corruption Act last week. Mr. Bansi Lal was arrested when he entered the police station in his hometown of Bhi-

wani in northern Haryana State for questioning. Samachar news agency reported. Police have accused Mr. Bansi Lal of misappropriating Youth Congress funds of 500,000 rupees (\$33,000), according to an initial report lodged at the police station, Samachar reported. He has already been granted bail in anticipation of arrest in two other cases registered against him by police. He is also facing a commission of inquiry into his affairs. Mr. Bansi Lal, a former chief minister of Haryana State, was brought into the cabinet as defence minister in December 1975, six months after the emergency was declared.

Ha was expelled from the Congress Party following the general elections last March for what were called his "undemocratic, autocratic and undignified activities." Early last week several close aides of Mrs. Gandhi were arrested and accused by police of misusing their positions to collect funds for the Congress Party and siphoning these off to fictitious companies. They included Mr. Rajinder Kumar Dhawan, the former prime minister's private secretary, Mr. Yasraj Kapoor, a close confidant who organised her 1971 election campaign, and Mr. Prakash Chand Sethi, a former Minister of State for Petroleum. All have been released on bail.

New Chinese constitution shows anti-radical line

PEKING, Aug. 23 (R). — China today published a new Communist Party constitution which lays heavy stress on discipline but offers increased freedom of speech within the party. The constitution, published by the New China News Agency, sees economic development as a major goal and includes provisions designed to prevent further outbreaks of political factionalism. In a move apparently aimed at stopping radicals infiltrating into the party, all new members will have to serve a probationary year. The constitution was adopted by the 11th Communist Party Congress last week and reflects the pragmatic line China has pursued since Mao Tse-tung's death. Some analysts compared it with the 1950 constitution overthrown after the tumultuous Cultural Revolution of the 1960s. The Communist Party should create a situation in which there are both centralism and democracy, both discipline and freedom. Both unity of will and personal ease of mind and liveliness," it said. Introducing the constitution to the congress, Vice-Chairman Yeh Chien-ying said it was essential to "let the masses say what is on their minds." One article stipulates that members have the right to criticize party organizations and officials. They can also appeal to higher authorities -- right up to Chairman Hua Kuo-feng. "Democracy inside the party is intended to strengthen discipline," Mr. Yeh said, adding that Peking was intent on iron discipline.

A new article orders the setting up of disciplinary commissions at all levels of the party. The last constitution was adopted in 1973 at a time when ultra-leftists wielded great power in the party. Marshall Yeh complained that as a result of the radical "gang of four" influence and disruption, the party contained people addicted to factionalism and anarchy. Judge tells Pakistani rulers off LAHORE, Aug. 23 (R). — A High Court judge has told Pakistan's military rulers that their right to govern is limited and that they could be called on to justify their actions. Judge K. M. S. Samdani, hearing a writ petition yesterday, said an army officer violated a citizen's legal rights when he intervened in a dispute between landlord and tenant. The law of the land fully provided for settlement of such disputes and intervention by the military authorities was not only unnecessary but highly undesirable, the judge said. The judge said the military based their July 5 coup on the grounds of dire necessity and therefore when challenged they must justify it under the doctrine of necessity. "It is the judiciary alone, until the people are in a position to express their will through their elected representatives, that can legalise the present de facto regime," he said.

Palestinian-Israeli clashes go on at world law meeting

MANILA, Aug. 23 (Agencies). — Israeli and Palestinian delegates today clashed for the second day running at the World Peace Through Law Conference here. During a debate on the international protection of human rights, Palestinian-born Prof. Musa Mazzawi of London Polytechnic Law School ac-

cused the Israelis of trying to slip through a resolution endorsing the right of the Jews to leave the Soviet Union without mentioning that they would go to homes expatriated from Palestinians. Meir Shmargar of Israel, counter-charged that he had failed to say that Arabs had "committed genocide" against Jews and had "expelled" 700,000 of them from their countries. Yesterday Prof. Mazzawi intervened in a panel discussion on international terrorism and drug trafficking being chaired by Judge Shmargar. Today's clash started when Judge Shmargar gave notice to another panel that he was proposing a resolution seeking endorsement both of the "rights of people to leave countries" and support for "prisoners of conscience". Prof. Mazzawi said that the Israelis were trying to utilize the conference to serve their own interests. When the Nepal Chairman Dean Dhurba Barsingh Thapa, tried to rule him "out of order", Prof. Mazzawi said: "I will violate the rule to make my voice heard if necessary. I have come 10,000 miles to speak."

But he agreed to let the Israeli finish and speak later. He then accused the Israelis of pushing the right of Jews to leave the Soviet Union without saying they would be taking over the homes of three million Palestinians. He asked that any resolution supporting the right of people to leave countries should include support for the right of Palestinians to return to their homes in accordance with the United Nations Convention on Human Rights. The chair promised to include his proposal when the resolutions went forward. Prof. Mazzawi also asked the conference to salute the liberation movements of the "oppressed peoples" of Palestine, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

Spanish parliament begins work on new constitution

MADRID, Aug. 23 (Agencies). — The Spanish Cortes (Parliament) yesterday began writing a new, democratic constitution for Spain to replace the authoritarian fundamental laws left by Gen. Francisco Franco. A sub-committee of the Congress of Deputies' Constitutional Committee met to discuss the broad outlines of drafts drawn up by the country's four major political parties. The new constitution, Spain's 11th since 1808, is expected to be ready for approval by both the Congress (lower house) and the Senate by the end of the year. But agreement on certain key points is not likely to be easy. Although both the traditional Republican, Communist and Socialist parties have not made the form of the state a fundamental issue in their drafts, one of the main points to be resolved is the powers of the head of state. At present King Juan Carlos, appointed by Gen. Franco as his successor years ago, has almost dictatorial powers if he should choose to use them. After the constitution's adoption, parliament may be dissolved and new elections organised but this will have to be decided by the Cortes during its current debates. Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez' party, the Union of the Democratic Centre (UCD) is understood to favour the continuation of the present Cortes through to the end of its elected existence -- in four years' time. However, the leftwing and regional parties are all calling for the dissolution of the two houses once the constitutional vote has been taken. The Constitutional Committee is composed of three deputies -- one UCD, one Socialist and one Communist -- one representative from the regional groups and a representative of the Popular Alliance Party.

Smith, Vorster meet Saturday for talks on Rhodesian issue

PRETORIA, Aug. 23 (R). — Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith will meet South African Premier John Vorster here on Saturday for talks on the Rhodesian situation, a government spokesman said today. The spokesman said South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha would also attend the meeting. After meeting Mr. Vorster, Mr. Smith will watch a rugby match in Pretoria between a South African national team and a World Invitation Squad, the spokesman added. His visit follows four trips by Mr. Botha to Salisbury to discuss the latest Anglo-American settlement proposals with the Rhodesian prime minister. Last week Mr. Botha went to Salisbury to brief Mr. Smith on the meeting he held with Dr. Owen and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance in London on the proposals, which are aimed at bringing majority rule to Rhodesia's six million blacks by the end of next year.

U.N. receives protest on Turks' plans to "colonise" Famagusta

NICOSIA, Aug. 23 (AFP). — Cypriot Foreign Minister Ioannis Christophides yesterday protested to the United Nations against Turkish plans to "colonise" Famagusta, the Greek-Cypriot city in the Turkish occupation zone in the eastern end of the island. Mr. Christophides passed his complaint to M. Rene Gorge, political adviser here to the U.N. peace-keeping force (UNFICYP). He asked that U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim intervene personally to prevent implementation of the Turks' plan, which he said was in line with Turkish intentions of gradually changing the demography of Cyprus. If the Turkish settlement programme were carried out, he said, it would "amount to a further fait accompli and would wipe out the efforts which have been made to find a rapid settlement to the Cypriot problem." The announcement that Turks would settle in Famagusta was made last month by Mr. Bulent Ecevit during his brief tenure as prime minister of Turkey. Famagusta, the island's third-largest city, was among the urban areas completely evacuated by the Greeks after the 1974 Turkish invasion and occupation of Cyprus. At the last press conference of his life, on July 21, the late Archbishop Makarios said that his government would appeal to the U.N. Security Council "if the Turkish threats to colonise Famagusta should materialise." He said such a move would mean "the disappearance of all hope for a fast settlement" in Cyprus.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

U.S. body detects Soviet nuclear explosion
* WASHINGTON, Aug. 23 (R). — Shock waves from an apparent Soviet underground nuclear explosion were detected by U.S. sensors on Saturday, the government said yesterday. A spokesman for the Energy Research and Development Administration said seismic signals showed the blast originated in central Siberia, south of the Arctic Circle. The signals began about 22:00 GMT on Saturday. It was the fifth time this year such signals from the Soviet Union have been recorded by the United States, the spokesman said.

2 high-ranking appointments in Israeli army
* TEL AVIV, Aug. 23 (R). — The Israeli army yesterday announced the appointment of two senior officers to new high-ranking posts -- a regular policy in the armed forces to enable its officers to "get acquainted with a wider range of activities." Maj.-Gen. Raphael Eitan, 48, until now in charge of the Northern Command, has been appointed chief of operations at General Headquarters. Replacing him as head of the Northern Command, which includes the occupied Golan Heights and the frontier with war-torn South Lebanon, will be Brig.-Gen. Avigdor Ben-Gal 41. He is automatically promoted to the rank of Major-General. The present Chief of Operations at Headquarters, Maj.-Gen. Yekutiel Adam, will go on a special leave for university studies.

Indonesian earthquake toll up to 80
* JAKARTA, Aug. 23 (R). — The confirmed death toll from a powerful earthquake which jolted an Indonesian island chain three days ago has risen to 80, an official spokesman said today. He said more than 200 buildings and 12 rice granaries were destroyed by accompanying tidal waves which swept the coastal areas of the islands of Sumba, Sumbawa and Lombok east of Java.

Polsario's French captives in good health
* PARIS, Aug. 23 (R). — French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud said yesterday that six French nationals, abducted during a Polisario guerrilla raid on a Mauritania town last May, were in good health. M. de Guiringaud told France-Inter Radio station that, according to Algerian sources, the five men and a woman were well. "I have not been given details of their place of detention, but I have good reason to think that they are somewhere in the Algerian south within the confines of the 'Western Sahara,'" he said.

2 Bahraini magazines suspended for 1 month
* BAHRAIN, Aug. 23 (R). — Two weekly political magazines have been ordered to cease publication for one month because they published material "harmful to the brotherly ties linking the people of Bahrain." Information Minister Tariq Al Mueayed was quoted as saying here today. The two magazines, Al Mawajef and Hatha Al Usbu, recently published articles tending to cause disruption and contrary to the spirit of fair journalism based on objective criticism, he said. The newspaper Akhbar Al Khaleef, Hatha Al Usbu published in its latest issue an attack on certain government officials which Al Mawajef yesterday interpreted as criticism of a Bahraini Shi'a community.

13 nations join Quran reading competition
* KUALA LUMPUR, Aug. 23 (AFP). — Thirteen countries have agreed to participate in this year's international Quran reading competition here from Sep. 3. They are Jordan, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Thailand, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Brunei, Singapore, Kuwait, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

Bonn denies pre-knowledge of Kappler's escape

BONN, Aug. 23 (R). — The West German government today denied that it had anything to do with the smuggling of Nazi war criminal Herbert Kappler out of Italy eight days ago. The statement by Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's official spokesman, Dr. Armin Gruenewald, followed a request from Italy last Thursday for the 70-year-old former S.S. officer to be handed back to complete his life sentence. Leaving papers and statements in Italy have accused the Bonn government of knowing about his dramatic flight from a Rome military hospital beforehand and giving him sanctuary.

Foreign gifts to Nixon under probe

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23 (R). — America's chief of protocol will go to court tomorrow to ask for permission to search 200 packing cases containing material from the Nixon presidency in the hope of finding a number of missing gifts from foreign leaders, the U.S. State Department said yesterday. A department spokesman said there were unresolved questions concerning the whereabouts of gifts from foreign governments to former President Nixon and members of his family. Chief of Protocol Evan Dobell has asked Mr. Joel Solomon, head of the government's General Services Administration, to make an inventory of the gifts to the Nixons in its possession, the spokesman said. Under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act of 1966, gifts worth more than \$50 belong to the government and must be turned over to the chief of protocol. At least a dozen of the missing gifts were presents from Iran, according to the Washington Post newspaper. It said Iranian Ambassador Ardeshir Zahedi, according to incomplete records now in the possession of the State Department, always remembered the Nixons at Christmas and the New Year, on their birthdays and anniversaries and with get-well gifts. Among the missing gifts presented to the Nixons during their six years in the White House was one presented to Mr. Nixon's wife Patricia by the Shah of Iran on his state visit to Washington on 1972, the Washington Post said. The gift was described by the White House Gift Unit as "a very fine hand-painted miniature of the president done on ivory... 18 karat gold oval frame on easel back surround-

Spanish parliament begins work on new constitution

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Uncomfortable Soviet tanks damage army morale, argues U.S. intelligence director

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23 (R). — Some Soviet tanks are so cramped that "only a left-handed midget" could operate them properly, the chief of U.S. defence intelligence said in evidence to Congress published yesterday. Lt.-Gen. Samuel Wilson told congressmen that crowded, uncomfortable conditions in its ships, planes and tanks are damaging morale among Soviet servicemen. "In the T-62 (tank) for example, only a left-handed midget really can handle the manual loading problem," he said. "So, the Soviets do sacrifice a great deal of human comfort in their systems." In a censored version of secret testimony he gave to a Congressional economic sub-committee on June 30, the director of the Defence Intelligence Agency said the Soviet Union is improving its weapons but still lags technologically behind the United States. In a releasing a partial transcript of the testimony, Sen. William Proxmire said: "With respect to Soviet defence, it is clear from the evidence that the Russians are spending more and enjoying it less. "It appears that the Soviet leaders are trying to become history's outstanding example of how to achieve military strength or economic prosperity." In his testimony, Gen. Wilson estimated that the Soviet Union spent the equivalent of \$118 billion on defence in 1976, compared with the United States' \$84 billion -- an amount he called an "economic burden" to the Soviet economy. Gen. Wilson gave examples of cases in which the Soviet Union is increasing the number of its weapons while the United States maintains a technological superiority.

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